FAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Statewise information in respect of total number of incidents of bank robberies|dacoities which took place during the years 1986, 1987, 1988 and bankwise details of amounts involved and amounts recovered in respect of these incidents are given in the enclosed statement I [*See* appendix CLI, Annexure No. 170] and II respectively. [*See* Appendix CLI, Annexure No. 171].

(d) Bank robberies|dacoities, to a considerable extent, depend on the general security environment in the locality. Banks however, have been taking steps to improve their security arrangements so as to offer as little inducement as possible to miscreants from attempting bank robberies as also to deter them so. As this is a continuous process, security measures implemented by public sector banks are reviewed from time to time and whenever further improvements are considered necessary, requisite guidelines|instructions are given to the banks. Depending on the risk factor involved, steps have been taken to appoint security guards, instal appropriate alarm systems, etc., in branches. Further in order to motivate bank employees, the general public and the police to resist robbers|dacoits a scheme for giving rewards is also in operation.

Indo-Soviet trade

3056. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the balance of trade position between India and USSR during the last three years;

(b) what are the major commodities of exchange; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to improve our trade and include more commodities for future trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) During the last three years, the balance of trade position has been in favour of India. The major items of exports from India to the USSR: tea, coffee, pepper, cardamom and other spices, mica and mica products, alumina, medicines and pharmaceutical preparations pesticides and harbicides, a number of chemicals and chemicals products, finished leather and shoe uppers, cotton clothes and readymade garments, a wide range of machinery and equipment including automobile storage batteries, freight containers, steam boilers, diesel engines, electronic instruments, machine tools, aluminium, power cables, etc. The major items of imports from the USSR are: crude oil, oil products, newsprint, fertilizers, sulphur, steel products, plastic chemicals non-ferrous metals like zinc, copper, nickel, a number of machinery item like power equipment, coal mining equipment, ferrous metallurgical equipments, etc., various steps are being taken by the Government to expand and diversity the structure of bilateral trade. In the export of list, provisions have been increa in respect of a number of existing items like tea, coffee, readymade garments, shoe uppers, chemicals, storage batteries, iron and steel castings etc. etc. New items have been added such as non-ferrous castings, and forgings, castings for Railways, abrassive goods, analyzers for quality control of agricultural product, machinery and equipment for the textile, sewing and leather industries, sports shoes, razor blades, ship repairs, components for tractors detergents, decorative plastics, etc Similarly, in the import list, provisions have been increased in respect of a number of existing items such as crude oil, oil products, non-ferrous metals, wood-pulp, agricultural machinery, port and civil aviation equipment, etc. New items have been added such as benezne, pig iron, quipment and materials for Indian Railways, etc. Addiiton of new items to the trade basket is being examined in a continuing fashion. Apart from conventional trade, new forms of economic cooperation like production cooperatin, joint ventures cooperation in services sector, etc., are also being encouraged Participation in exhibitions, visits of technical level of delegation increased business level contracts, etc. are being encouraged.